

*Application No. 09/923272*  
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*Amendment*  
*Attorney Docket No. D55.2B-10027-US01*

**Amendments To The Claims:**

1. (Previously presented) A firearm comprising:
  - a) an elongate barrel having a length of at least three feet, said elongate barrel having a breach end and a muzzle end; and
  - b) a plurality of vents disposed through said elongate barrel, said vents initiating beyond twelve inches from said breach end, said vents terminating proximate to said muzzle end, said vents having a size less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter, said vents being constructed and arranged to minimize sound report by gradual release of gasses through said vents along said barrel toward said muzzle end of said firearm following discharge, said vents minimizing gas pressure proximate to said muzzle end.
2. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 1, wherein said elongate barrel has a length of less than 12 feet.
3. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said elongate barrel is formed of barrel sections.
4. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein said barrel sections are releasably coupled to each other.
5. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein said barrel sections are fixedly secured to each other.
6. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein each of said barrel sections have the same length dimension.
7. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein at least two of said barrel sections have different length dimensions.
8. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 3, wherein said elongate barrel has a length of approximately seven feet.
9. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said plurality of vents are of the same size.
10. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 2, said plurality of vents comprising vents of at least two different sizes.

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11. (Cancelled) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said vents have a size less than ½ inch in diameter.
12. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 2, wherein said vents are grouped into at least one sector.
13. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said vents are regularly spaced within each of said sectors.
14. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said vents are irregularly spaced within each of said sectors.
15. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said vents are the same size within each of said sectors.
16. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 12, said vents comprising vents of at least two different sizes within each of said sectors.
17. (Previously presented) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein said sectors have an identical length dimension.
18. (Withdrawn) The firearm according to claim 12, wherein at least two of said sectors have a different length dimension.